



6

Montana artists encouraged to join Find Art website

A new artist directory, www.findart-montana.com, is now live and supporting visual artists throughout the state. The site is designed specifically to help visitors locate artists, studios and art as they travel in the state and enjoy the local culture.

Jan Shanahan and Kris Kramer, both residents of Whitefish, put the site together. They encourage all Montana artists to become part of the FindArtMontana community.

It's easy to participate by filling out the Artist Information Form located on the About Us page. Take a few moments to complete, attach it to an email, and allow the site to promote your work.

Wanted: List of Montana websites that promote artists and performers

The Montana Arts Council would like to list more Montana-based websites that promote Montana artists and performers in *State of the Arts*.

Please send your web address, a brief description of the service you provide, and information on how artists or performers can sign up to kristi@livelytimes.com. Please put "Website listing for State of the Arts" in the subject line.

MAP Gathering (from page 1)

The dinner was also held to honor MAP artists and their work. Kiana Fecteau (Bitterroot MAP), Donna Gans and Joan Kallay (Flathead MAP), and Meagan and Michael Blessing (Four Corners MAP) received their MAP Certificates of Market Readiness in person. Seven other artists received theirs in absentia: Merrily Dunham (Seeley-Swan MAP); Jane Emmert, Kris Kramer, and Kathy Martin (Flathead MAP); and Patrick Luther, Wendy Marquis, and Allison McGree (Four Corners MAP).

Seven MAP coaches also became MAP Certified Coaches and were awarded their certificates. They are Annie Allen, Lincoln MAP; Meagan Blessing, Springhill MAP; Michael Blessing, Four Corners MAP; Flori Engbrecht, Bitterroot MAP; Sheri Jarvis, Pintler MAP; Linda Short, Highline MAP; and Fern Vinton, Big Belts MAP.

Booth awards from the Show and Sale were also presented. Tim Carlborg, Kalispell, was picked by his fellow artists to receive the Show's Artistic Merit Award (he also received the Customer Consideration Award, with Susan Malee, Anaconda, and Karen Chesna, Kalispell, receiving honorable mentions). Kara Fellows Tripp, Bozeman, won the award for Distinctive Branding, with Nathan Anderson and Kathy Burk, both of Bozeman, receiving honorable mentions.

Bev Polk, Wilsall, was awarded the Outstanding Narrative Award, and Jennifer Ogden of Hamilton and Janina Hobday of Columbia Falls received honorable mentions. The award-winning pedestal went to Jim Ellingson of Hamilton with Dixie Yelvington, Butte, receiving honorable mention.

On Sunday and Monday, participating artists attended workshops designed to help them delve deeper into the business of art and reach their goals of becoming more sustainable in their work. The workshops covered a range of topics:

- Creative Capital's Kirby Tepper led two daylong workshops on "Improving Verbal Communications," designed to help artists develop their skills in public speaking and improve interpersonal communications.

- Riana Davidson, Social Media Manager from the Montana Office of Tourism, helped artists learn how to elevate their current efforts in social media.

- Stephen Forrest, a Montana Legislative Fiscal Analyst, taught artists how to appraise and tame the risks they face financially and in their art.

- Sheri Jarvis, painter, potter and MAP coach, led "Imagine the Greatest Gift Ever," an exercise to stimulate creative messaging.

- Michelle Mendenall, who specializes in small business growth and branding development, taught artists how to work with

professional designers to get the best value for their investment, while insuring the clarity of their branding.

- MAP coach Jan Shanahan, of Wild Sky Industries, help artists learn the basics and then delve deeper in "Licensing I and II."

- Kate Peterson's workshops, "The More You Know, The More You Grow," helped artists learn how researching and developing a customer base provides a better look at growth potential.

The weekend provided participating artists with the opportunity to get to know other artists from across the state and to begin the process of building collaborative relationships. MAP Gathering Coach Kris Komar reported that MAP artists came from the Bit-



Tim Carlborg, MAP Flathead artist, won the Artistic Merit Award for his Carlborg Pottery booth.



Kirby Tepper of Creative Capital holds the attention of artists in the verbal communications workshop.



Bev Polk, Wilsall MAP artist, receives booth award for Outstanding Narrative from MAC Executive Director Arni Fishbaugh. Folk Arts and Market Development Specialist Cindy Kittredge looks on.

terroot (Darby, Hamilton, Victor, Stevensville, Corvallis and Lolo) and beyond – Lincoln, Bozeman, Townsend, Reed Point, Bridger Canyon, Missoula, Whitefish, Kalispell, Anaconda, Three Forks, Roundup, Melville, Arlee, Columbia Falls, Fairfield, Butte, Dixon, Hudson, Big Sky, Whitehall, Swan Valley, Wilsall, Billings, Helena, Columbus and White Sulphur Springs.

"This is an incredible opportunity for all of us interested in developing Montana's creative economies," said MAC Executive Director Arni Fishbaugh. "Through support from the USDA, the Emily Hall Tremaine Foundation, and LINC, we have been able to shape this kind of event to help artists showcase their art and learn more

about the business of art, while giving them the opportunity to network and share information."

Artist Gathering 2013 was open to artists who had participated in one of the 22 MAP groups across the state. New groups will be forming and a new round of workshops will begin after Jan. 1, 2014. Interested artists need to complete an application form that is available on the MAC website at www.art.mt.gov and submit it according to the directions.

For additional information, go to www.art.mt.gov or contact Cindy Kittredge at 406-468-4078 or mtcreativearts@gmail.com.

Warren Miller PAC (from page 1)

After graduating from Colorado College with a degree in music, he spent a year in Eastern Europe independently studying choirs, vocal ensembles, and performance practice on a Thomas J. Watson Fellowship. He was part of the music team on Disney's "The Little Mermaid" when it went to Broadway, and also served as a member of the editorial department at Boosey and Hawkes, the largest classical music publishing company in the world, in New York City, before coming to Montana.

In addition to his work as a conductor, award-winning composer, and director, he is also an avid skier and gets out on the hill as much as he can.

The art center's primary mission, he says, "is to establish and maintain a clear and stable artistic infrastructure and grow a community of confident performers and inspired audiences."

Along with national acts, the WMPAC hosts art events and education within the community. Big Sky Community Theatre offers acting opportunities for area adults with a passion to perform; and the Big Sky Community Chorus brings together adults who enjoy singing.

Ophir School students will also benefit; during the school day, students fill the center with their talents under the supervision of a faculty of drama, visual arts and music professionals.

The center also is home to an art gallery, which will offer three shows in tandem with



The stage is set for the inaugural performing arts series at the 280-seat WMPAC.

the performing arts series, all highlighting works by Montana artists. The first, on display through January, features traditional and contemporary works in mixed media that reflect the theme of "Movement," in correlation with the James Sewell Ballet. The second, on display in February, explores storytelling and improvisation. Although the theme for the March show is still uncertain, "It will most likely be based on themes surrounding gravity and mixed media," says Zirkle.

The debut season starts Dec. 28 with The James Sewell Ballet troupe, which performs innovative works that explore the technical boundaries of ballet.

Future performances include:

The Second City, Jan. 11: Comedy improv group has been spreading its trademark sensibility for half a century.

The Portland Cello Project, Jan. 25:

Lauded by *Spin* magazine as an "indie orchestra that gives classical music a jolt of energy."

The Moth Mainstage, Feb. 15:

Storytellers explore unexpected themes in this acclaimed touring show and podcast.

The Brubeck Brothers Quartet, Feb. 20:

Jazz ensemble features two members of one of America's most accomplished musical families, Dan Brubeck (drums) and Chris Brubeck (bass and trombone).

Antonii Baryshevskyi, March 1:

Talented young Ukrainian pianist "sets the keys on fire."

David Mason and Tami Haaland,

March 9: Poet Laureate double-header performance also features Montana singer/songwriter Martha Scanlan.

Philip Aaberg, Angella Ahn and Mike Reynolds, March 19: Composer and pianist Aaberg premieres his original, WMPAC-commissioned piece with violinist Ahn and cellist Reynolds.

Mark Applebaum, March 29: Composer, performer and Stanford University professor explores how boredom drives his creativity.

Jeanne Jolly, April 13: North Carolina singer/songwriter closes the debut season with her trio.

Tickets range from \$15-\$55, and are available through the WMPAC website (www.warrenmillerpac.org/).